

# DECEMBER

Magic Lantern Society

## NEWS 2024



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and  
roll-over effects

<b>The Magic Lantern Calendar –December 2024.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Society Member Awarded Visual Studies Workshop.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Snowflake Bently .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Can You Help?.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Carnegie Museum of Art .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Intrigued by Magic Lantern Slides.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Betty Peabody.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>More Season Slides .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Welcome New Members .....</b>	<b>12</b>

Click on Slide Image to view  
the Season



## The Magic Lantern Calendar –December 2024

### Events

Dec. 1, 2024, **A Gothicy Grand MagicLantern Christmas**, with the mysterious realms of goblins, ghosts, and the extraordinary in a spellbinding seasonal celebration with maestros Jeremy & Carolyn Brooker, Charles Dickens Museum, 48-49 Doughty Street, London, WC1N 2LX, England.

Dec. 8, 2024, **Joy Scrolling! A Magic Lantern and Crankie Show**, with crankie maker Wendy Dacre and magic lanternist Richard Crangle, The Projection Room, 11 Torbay Road, Paignton, TQ4, 6AA, England.

Dec. 15, 2024, **A Family Edwardian Christmas at Lauriston Castle**, includes a traditional magic lantern show, Lauriston Castle, 2a Cramond Road South, Edinburgh, Scotland EH4 5QD UK.

Dec. 15, 2024, **Magic Lantern Show**, a glimpse of 19 th -century Venice through original slides of the period, enhancing a little-known but historically and aesthetically valuable photographic heritage, brought to life by Laura Minici Zotti, founder of the museum. Museo del Precinema, Prato della Valle 1/A, Padova, Italy.

Dec. 20, 2024, **Magic Lantern Christmas Show**, Patrick Furley provides a Christmas show using original plates and readings, Wotton-under-Edge Historical Society Museum & Heritage Centre, The Chipping, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 7AD, England.

Dec. 21, 2024, **Magic Lantern Show**, featuring Jeremy Brooker, fundraising for the Charlton society, St. Luke's Church, Charlton, London, SE7 8UG, England.

Dec. 23, 2024, **Christmas Magic Lantern Show**, Hornby Village Institute, Main Street, Hornby, Lancaster, Lancashire LA2 8JR, England.

Jan. 25, 2025, **Annual General Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society (UK), The Musical Museum, 399 High Street, Brentford, London TW8 0DU, England.

Jul. 17 – 31, 2025, **Harper Thursday and the Magic Lantern**, a theatrical adventure, this enchanting production invites families to embark on a journey filled with wonder and imagination. The Common Room, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1SE, England.

Through 2025, **Project Space** Residency, featuring Melissa Ferrari, Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.

Sundays through Thursdays, **Salem on Foot: Magic Lantern Tour**, rare and strange images projected upon shadowy walls and darkened streets, bringing life to tales of ghosts and witchcraft and murder. Derby Square, Downtown Salem, MA.

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## Calendar –continued

### Exhibits

through Jan. 17, 2025, **Acts of Projection**, showing U.S. Civil War artifacts of lantern shows – handpainted slides and period projectors, as well as the actual projections to stimulate the original viewing experience. Anderson Gallery, College of Arts and Sciences, Drake University, 2507 University Ave., Des Moines, IA 50311.

Through Jan. 19, 2025, **In Your Wildest Dreams: Ensor Beyond Impressionism**, focusing on James Ensor's fascination with masks, skeletons, and caricatures, lanternists Ditmar Bollaert features a chamber theatre with continuous video projection, royal Museum of Fine Arts, Leopold de Waelplaats 1, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium.

Through Dec. 29, 2025, **Im Zauber des Lichts – Bildwelten der Laterna Magica: Magic Lantern and Toy Lantern Slide exhibition**, Freilichtmuseum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 6126 Neu-Anspach/Taunus, Germany.

Ongoing, **Fred Harvey hand-colored photograph magic lantern slides**, Wheels Museum, 1100 2nd St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

### Online

**Magic Lantern Performing Group**, Improve your skills every other Wednesday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: [tborton@magiclanternshows.com](mailto:tborton@magiclanternshows.com)

**Media History Digital Library**, <https://mediahistoryproject.org/collections/magic-lantern/> Magic lantern ephemera.

**De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum**, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

**Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource**, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

**The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows**, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. [www.magic-lanternmuseum.com](http://www.magic-lanternmuseum.com)

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to [briandrogers@gmail.com](mailto:briandrogers@gmail.com).



## Society Member Awarded Visual Studies Workshop

[https://www.vsw.org/residency/projectspace/?fbclid=IwY2xjawGy\\_AZleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHXzuVOoFixedl6qAakY4OaPUoquavv-ii78v2ESf6bVZrxWOGt2NfXS8Cw\\_aem\\_CqF1D9QFR8KAfD0uU2SJoA](https://www.vsw.org/residency/projectspace/?fbclid=IwY2xjawGy_AZleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHXzuVOoFixedl6qAakY4OaPUoquavv-ii78v2ESf6bVZrxWOGt2NfXS8Cw_aem_CqF1D9QFR8KAfD0uU2SJoA)

### Visual Studies Workshop Residency Project Space

For over 50 years, VSW has provided time, space and resources for artists from all over the world to expand their practice and continue ongoing projects.

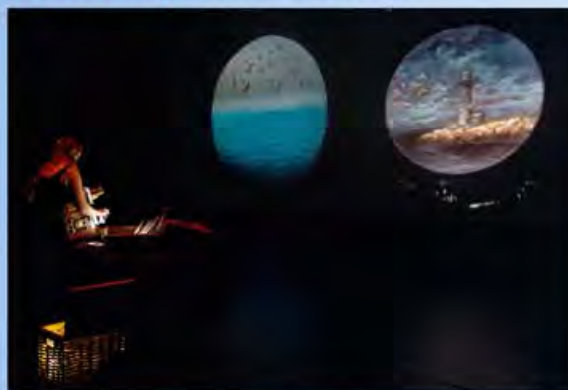
#### About The Residency

Rooted in VSW's mission to provide support to experimental photo, film and media art artists, the goal of the Project Space Residency is to provide time, space, and resources to artists so they can create.

### Melissa Ferrari's Post On Facebook

Incredibly grateful to be awarded a Visual Studies Workshop Project Space Residency in Rochester, NY, to work on a new magic lantern show! I will be there for the month of December diving into their lantern slide archive, experimenting with new slide-making techniques, and working on my new lantern show about the history of abortifacients. Thank you so much to the VSW community for having me and to the jury panelists, I am thrilled to be part of such an wonderful cohort ♥ Would love to connect with magic lantern-y folks in the area!

### Visual Studies Workshop Residency Melissa Ferrari



Relict: A Phantasmagoria, Melissa Ferrari, 2023, expanded animation & magic lantern performance. Photographer Credit: Angel Onggi.

## Book Sale

### From David Coffeen

david@etesseract.com www.etesseract.com  
Greetings,

For the next ten days (26 Nov - 6 Dec), we are pleased to offer a 30% discount from our entire book list:

<https://www.etesseract.com/Books.pdf>

Postage extra, as charged.

Included are 146 titles covering all manner of early scientific and medical instruments, works on makers, trade catalogues, basic science, antiques, periodicals, etc.

David & Yola Coffeen, Ph.D.s

### Some Examples

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

119. Carl Zeiss Jena. Zeiss Photo Lenses. 1928, 24pp. fully illustrated descriptive trade catalogue with prices and tables, of all manner of Zeiss photography lenses. As New. Paperback. (#79) \$40.00

120. Kodak Company. Kodak Kodaks and Kodak Supplies. 1930, 64pp. fully illustrated descriptive trade catalogue of Kodak products for photography, by this leading American company. As New. Paperback. (#80) \$45.00

#### TRADE CATALOGUES

144. Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. Microscopes and Accessories. Rochester, N.Y.. 1929, 318pp. Useful trade catalogue, with Bausch & Lomb's complete range of instruments illustrated and described. Lovely tactile B & L binding. Very Good. Hardcover. (#174) \$85.00  
Pages slightly rumpled



## Snowflake Bentley

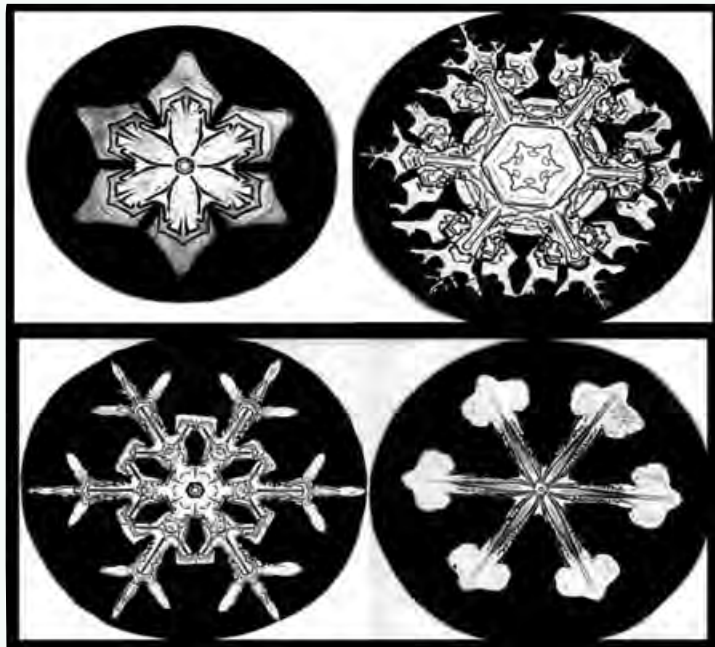
### From Terry Borton

Here's a YouTube video about Snowflake Bentley, the man who first photographed snowflakes, and showed them with a magic lantern. It features video of the man himself, working his elaborate home-made microscope/camera.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptLmA263hlk>

Best,

Terry





## Magic Lantern

**From John Kupfer**

johninvb@icloud.com

Hello, We are liquidating my father's collection as he has moved to assisted living. In his collection he had multiple lanterns and to many slides to count of course. Do you know of a museum that may want them or do you have any resources for collectors? We would greatly appreciate any help you could provide.  
John Kupfer

**From David Evans**

Hello John

It is a sad fact that most museums are not interested in magic lantern collections unless the collector was a significant local figure or the subject matter of the slides contributes to local history. The majority of collections do not fall into those categories.

If you could give me an idea of the slide subjects that would help. Are they in sets with readings? Are they black and white photographs or coloured? Do they move or do anything other than just being images? What size are they? The standard north American size was 4" x 3 1/4" and the British ones 3 1/4" square.

Could you let me have a few pictures of the lanterns too please? We can include them in our next monthly e-publication (December) and hope they may appeal to our members.

We may be lucky and find a buyer for you. Whereabouts are you located? It could affect shipping costs etc.

David Evans

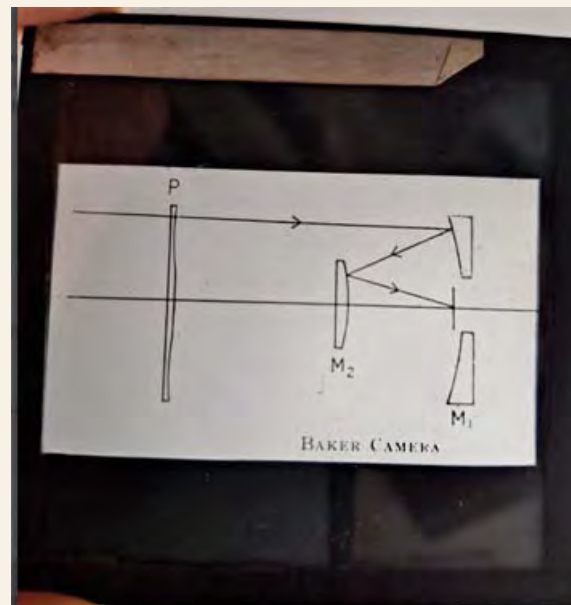
Thank you for contacting us.



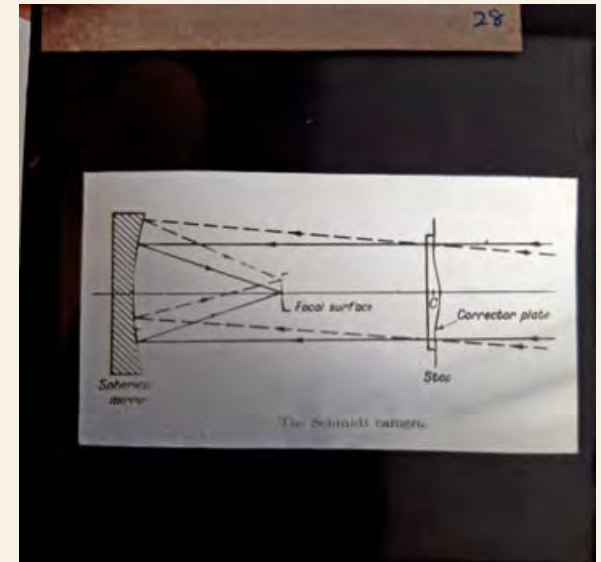
**From David Sanders**

bhafca10@hotmail.com

Hi to the magic lantern society  
I have in my possession some Victorian slides I'm not too sure of as I can't find any online? If your people could possibly throw some light on what these examples are and who they might appeal to?  
I'd appreciate your opinion.  
Regards. David Sanders



## Can You Help?



**From David Evans**

Hello David

The image you have sent me appears to be a part of a lecture on optics, with particular reference to a particular design of camera using a convex lens. Whether this is an isolated example or part of set in your collection of course we cannot say at this point. It may have come from a university or college with an optical department or just be part of a general science lecture. There may be collectors of such material, but it would be very much a niche market.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans



## Carnegie Museum of Art

### From Karl Link

Larry,  
Thought this might be of interest to you.

It's part of an exhibition at the Carnegie Museum of Art, titled *Widening the Lens*. This particular piece is "Archive", see attached photos.

Forgot to say that the little pictures are viewed through these little Stanhope like viewers behind the screen, kind of what you were handing out at the convention. Cool!

# Widening the Lens: Photography, Ecology, and the Contemporary Landscape

Landscape photographs contain a multitude of stories about natural spaces and the people connected to them. From the late 19th to the mid-20th centuries, many landscape photographers told a lopsided story about the American West as untouched wilderness devoid of human history and intervention. This myth overshadowed other stories—ecological ones at their core—about people existing and thriving in as well as transforming the environment for millennia. *Widening the Lens: Photography, Ecology, and the Contemporary Landscape* seeks to recognize and illuminate overlooked and ignored stories such as these.

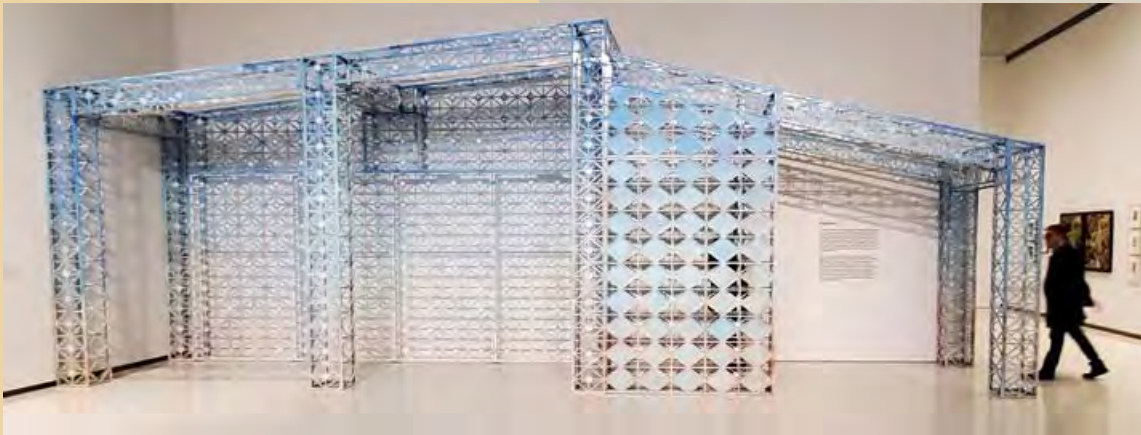
As you explore the exhibition, consider these four through lines: *Archive* challenges dominant narratives established in historical photographs; *Remembering* highlights landscapes rife with alternative personal experiences; *Pathfinding* tracks human movement and mobility within an environment; and *Horizon* envisions other possible landscapes imbued with both anxiety and opportunity.

Utilizing a range of media, including architecture, ceramics, photographic prints, tapestries, and videos, the 19 artists in this exhibition defy traditional conceptions of photography to infuse the landscape with a greater awareness of histories, natural forces, and inhabitants going back thousands of years. Each shift in technique and theme expands photographic and geographic boundaries to offer a more holistic look at the interwoven relationships between us and our surroundings. We invite you to experience these alternative forms of landscape photography and bring your own perspectives and associations to help create new stories.

This exhibition is organized by curator of photography, with K. Hillman Photography Initiative curatorial assistant.

Major support for the exhibition is provided by the William Talbott Hillman and the Henry L. Hillman Foundation. Significant support is provided by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Henry Luce Foundation. Support is provided by Telger Foundation. *Widening the Lens: Photography and the Contemporary Landscape* has been made possible in part by Endowment for the Arts.

Carnegie Museum of Art's exhibition program is supported by the Carnegie Museum of Art Exhibition Fund. Fellows of Carnegie Museum of Art.



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## Carnegie Museum of Art continued



Karl Link

### Archive

In the late 19th century, American photographers working for private companies and the federal government documented the abundant natural resources of the American western landscape. These images fueled environmental destruction and at the same time aided the creation of the first US National Parks. This history continues to influence the practice of contemporary artists who confront contradictory narratives with archival assemblage and modes of representation.

Dionne Lee appropriates pictures from old *National Geographic* magazines to challenge their often idealistic depictions of landscapes. A.K. Burns manipulates torn pages from a book about Glen Canyon—before it was dammed to create the Lake Powell reservoir—to reflect on the fraught legacy of human intervention in natural ecosystems. The six artists in this section expand our notion of what constitutes an archive and demonstrate some of the ways the past is implicated in the present through photography.





## Intrigued by Magic Lantern Slides

**From Trish Nunes**

trish2413@yahoo.com:

Hello,

I was recently intrigued by some magic lantern glass slides I saw at a garage sale and ended up purchasing them. I would like to purchase a projector that is appropriate for the slides I bought. Can you give me some tips on how to know which projector will work w/ my slides. I've sent a few photos of my slides so hopefully you can advise me. Any help would be appreciated. Thank you.

Thank you so much. This is very helpful. I'm on the hunt now!!!



**From David Evans**

Hello

I'm glad you rescued them! They are song slides used in cinema movie theatres during the interval

between feature films. The theatre organ would rise on its lift with the organist playing his signature tune and he would play for probably about 20 mins as a mini-concert. Part of it would have included a 'sing-along' where the audience would join in singing along to the words projected on the screen.

They would date from the 1920s.

A Bausch & Lomb lantern would be about the right period and would give you a fine result at a reasonable price. They are often available on eBay or other places where pre-used items are sold. Make sure it comes with a slide carrier for 4" x 3 1/4" slides.

Hope this helps.

Regards

David Evans



## Betty Peabody

### From Matt Schnittker

As you all probably know, Betty and her husband Homer were long-time MLS members. The Peabody Collection is now at San Diego State University.

[https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c84t6gsd/entire\\_text/](https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c84t6gsd/entire_text/)

I was performing in San Diego for three days. I let her know I was in town so she came over to see my show.



### David Evans

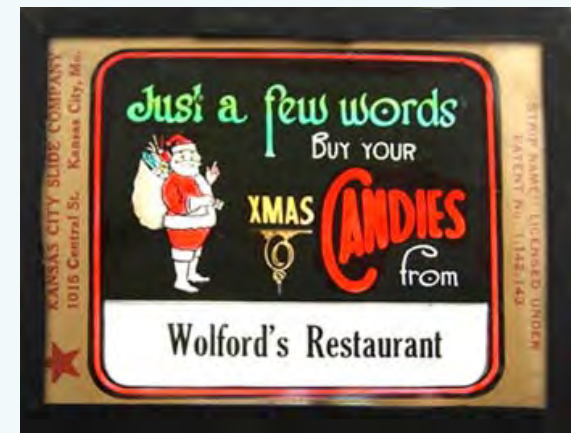
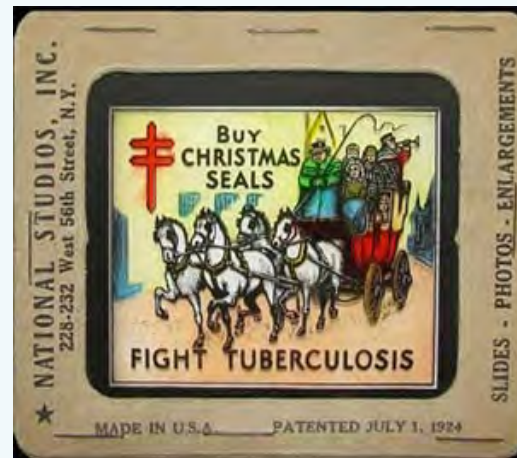
We knew Homer and Betty over many years and met with them at conventions of the MLS of US & C. Betty looks amazingly well - thank you for the picture and glad she came to your show.

Regards

David



## More Season Slides





**A Big Thank You to the following:**

Terry Borton  
David Coffeen  
David Evans  
Melissa Ferrari  
John Kupfer  
Karl Link  
Trish Nunes  
Brian Rogers  
David Sanders  
Matt Schnittker

**for contributing  
to this months issue.**

**Welcome New Members**

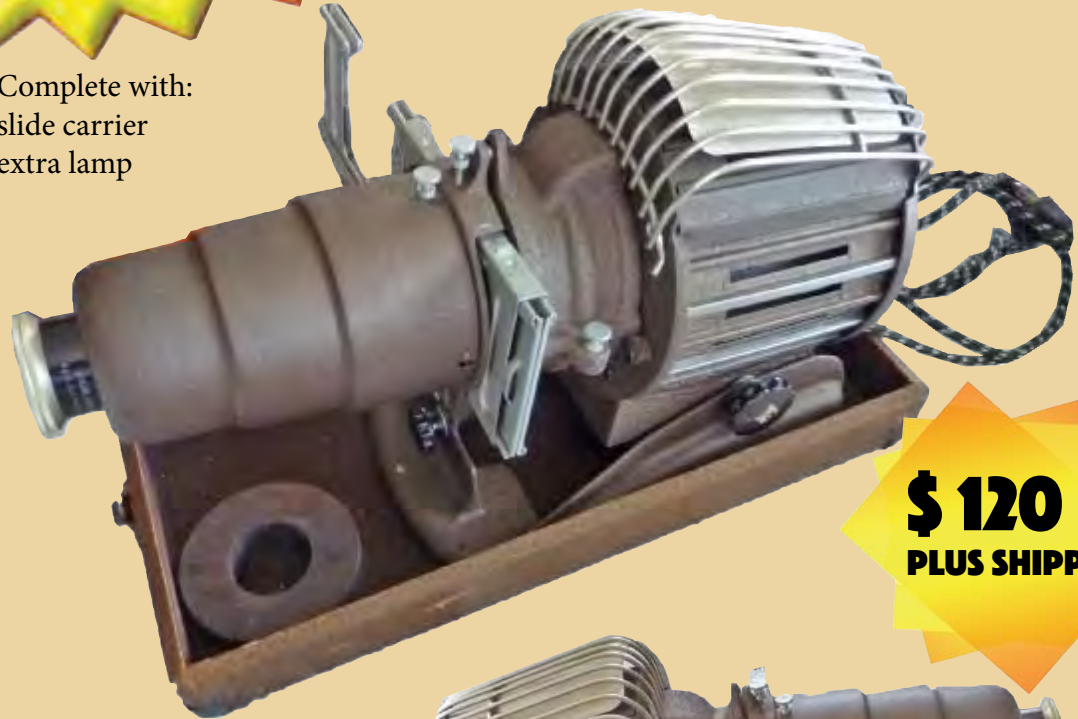
**Kevin Mulcahy**  
Philadelphia, PA



**FOR SALE**

**Goldie Master Projector**

Complete with:  
slide carrier  
extra lamp



**\$ 120  
PLUS SHIPPING**

original cloth covered wood case  
20 inches long x 9 inches wide  
and 13 inches high  
Weighs 18.4 pounds



**For more information and to  
make offer  
Contact Larry Cederblom  
[designerlc@comcast.net](mailto:designerlc@comcast.net)**

